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PORTLAND NEWS LETTER

Portland, March 16, 1915.—The working out of details in connection with the consolidation of the Portland Commercial Club and the Chamber of Commerce is progressing rapidly and smoothly and within a very short time all the varied, and frequently duplicated, activities of these two important bodies will be welded into one harmonious and effective unit. Under the direction of the new organization the work of development of the state and its resources will receive more consideration than ever before. The budget committee is unanimous in the opinion that greater efforts should be made in the future to assist established industries in all the communities of the state and that it is up to Portland to live up to the record already made in this line and to make great additions to the work already outlined.

The entire strength of the organization will be united in a comprehensive program for the development of Oregon; to help farmers to profitably market their produce; to finance the small farmer who finds himself unable to secure a suitable location; to welcome the new settler and help him to select and establish a new home; to take care of the great number of travelers expected to visit the state during the present year and to effectively apply the knowledge gained during the past ten years to meeting the present and future requirements of the business interests of the whole state.

Ground has been broken for the construction of the great interstate bridge which is to connect the city of Portland with Vancouver, Washington, and which will be an important link in the Pacific Highway, one of the most remarkable thoroughfares in the United States. As far as possible all contracts for the work have been let to local firms and preference will be given to locally produced materials and to local labor. Necessary funds are available for driving the work to an early completion.

At Champoeg, on May 1, will be celebrated the seventy-second anniversary of the organization of the first American civil government west of the Rocky Mountains. This will be the fifteenth celebration of the event, the first having been held in 1901. On June 17, at Portland, will be held the Forty-third annual reunion of Oregon Pioneers—those who came to, or were born in, any part of the original Oregon Country previous to 1859.

The county court of Crook county has made a liberal appropriation of funds to be used on the Lincoln Highway between Bend and La Pine, via Lava Butte. It is intended to make this one of the best roads in the whole state.

A campaign has been launched at Eugene to raise \$150,000 for the establishment of a lace factory at that point. It is said the Pacific Coast pays out \$500,000 to \$700,000 annually for lace and it is believed that a local factory could secure the bulk of that business.

The Aeroplane's Uses in War.
As the aeroplane is built to-day, it has only two uses in war that are really material, or likely to influence the general course of a campaign. These are as scout and director of artillery fire. Upon occasion, of course, it is used as a real offensive weapon; from it aviators drop bombs and they steel arrows upon the enemy or make swift dashes into the hostile territory, and there bombard an airship shed and destroy or disable the lurking monster within it. Occasionally, one of these aeroplanes may meet a slower-flying craft and put it out of action, or swooping down upon the enemy, it may stampede their horses, but these services are incidental to its chief work. It is when the scouting airman, flying ahead of an army, are able to warn its commander of some impending attack that threatens to overwhelm him, that they render a service that may alter the fortunes of a battle, or even change the whole course of a great campaign.—Claude Grahame-White, on "Aircraft in War," in The Youth's Companion.

LADIES

WHY SEND to the Mail Order Houses for your MILLINERY. I can sell you the same goods for the same money, and you can see and try on your hats before buying.

Mrs. L. G. Herren

HOW TO TREAT A CERTAIN CASE

The fashion seems to be increasing with a certain class of human brutes to kill women who refuse to marry them and then to kill themselves.

It is generally the rule to say that such men are temporarily insane and to give them funerals to which the morbid flock and send flowers.

Our belief is that such a course is a decided mistake, that the body of such a creature should be secretly buried at night and those who do the work be sworn never to reveal the place for there is a vast amount of method in that order of madness.

If the history of a murderer of that kind is run down, it will be found that all his life he had been supremely selfish, impatient of any restraint, undisciplined, naturally envious and jealous and at the same time insufferably vain.

When such a creature is attracted toward a woman, he never thinks of her happiness or what is due her; rather he pursues only his own sordid and selfish desires, and when baffled he is at first filled with self pity and this is followed by his vanity and self esteem prompting him to make a dramatic display.

If such an one knew in advance that if he did what he was meditating to do he would go to an unknown and unmarked grave followed only by the contempt of all who heard his name, in nine cases out of ten he would not be crazy enough to carry out his purpose.—Goodwin's Weekly.

REFERENDUM ON PROHIBITION LAW.

Gov. Withycombe has signed the prohibition law passed by the legislature, but it seems probable it will be taken before the people in November at a referendum election. Here is a clear abuse of this device for popular government. The people have spoken in unmistakable voice in favor of prohibition. The question of general policy is settled, beyond the power of legislature to alter. In accord with the mandate of the people, the legislature has endeavored to draft a law which shall define the terms and conditions of the enforcement of the law.

Properly used, the initiative and referendum should be employed to gain the popular expression on questions of general policy. The electorate of the state at large is not the body before which to submit a measure treating merely with administrative details. That can be considered and adjusted far better by a smaller body, acting with delegated authority. If the law this body enacts proves deficient in any respect, that same body should be best able to correct its faults.

In another respect the prospective referendum of the law has created widespread resentment. For years the people of Oregon, as of every other state and of many foreign nations, have been endeavoring to rid themselves of the evils of the excessive use of alcoholic drink. Every move they have made has been met by some crafty, underhanded scheme to defeat their purpose. The men who profit by the business have failed utterly to grasp the situation. Instead of seeking to eliminate the admitted evils of the business, they have sought to perpetuate those evils by tricking the homelovers of the community. So now, it is felt that a referendum will have its origin in an attempt at sharp practice in the hope that the evil business may continue a little longer.

However, Oregon will have to be dry after the first of next year, whatever be the fate of the present law. The constitutional amendment can and will be enforced with the assistance of court decisions, even if the law should be defeated. The chances are, however, that the law will be enforced by a majority even greater than that given the amendment. It is the duty of everyone interested in making and keeping Oregon dry, to prepare now for a possible fall campaign, so that a vote that shall leave no doubt in the mind of any trickster shall be recorded at the polls.—Enterprise Record-Chiefman.

REGULATION NEEDED.

The recent failure of three mutual fire insurance companies in Oregon shows the need of more stringent investigation and regulation of the fire insurance business and more care on the part of policyholders in buying insurance. For two years these companies had been paying in losses more than they had been receiving in premiums while making public statements that their affairs were in good shape. An investigation by the new Insurance Commissioner brought about a receivership. The future of these companies would not be so serious a matter if policyholders were not compelled to dig down in their pockets to make up the deficit. Those able to pay the assessment will be compelled to do so. Those against whom a judgment means nothing will have had cheap insurance at the expense of the other fellow. Those against whom a judgment is collectible will probably find that their insurance has cost them as much as if it had been taken in a company with a safe reserve fund while they have been encouraging unfair competition with safe business.

The Sentinel has no fault to find with the principles of mutual insurance but it does believe in a square deal to those companies (mutual or otherwise) that are amply protecting policyholders, and believes that purchasers should take a care that they are not fooled as policyholders in these three defunct companies were fooled.—Cottage Grove Sentinel.

Ralph Becket, of Rhea creek was in the city on Saturday.

John Bellenbrock and sons, Delbert and Conrad were visitors in the city Saturday from their Rhea creek home.

Why go to the trouble of baking when you can buy the best of bread at the Heppner Bakery.

We have for sale a number of Barred Rock Cockerels, both cock-erel and pullet mating. Choice birds. Wightman Bros., Heppner, Oregon. Call at ranch or write. Phone 30 F 23. F11-1m.

\$20 REWARD.

I will pay \$20 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person sticking a knife into the front tires of my car, while it was at the roadside, about a mile the other side of the Wm. Hendrix place.

D. E. GILMAN.

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